
Xylosma longipedicellata (Flacourtiaceae), a New Species from Nicaragua

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ABSTRACT. *Xylosma longipedicellata*, a new species from the dry upland forests of Nicaragua and neighboring Honduras, is described, and its relationships to other similar Central American species are discussed.

In the course of preparing a treatment of Flacourtiaceae for the Flora de Nicaragua, a new species of *Xylosma* was encountered and is here named and described.

Xylosma longipedicellata A. Pool, sp. nov.

TYPE: Nicaragua. Departamento de Estelí: El Chayote; 13°16'N, 86°19'W, elevation 1100–1200 m, 31 July 1983 (fruit), *Pedro P. Moreno 21765* (holotype, MO; isotype, HNMN not seen).

Arbor parva vel frutex, deciduus exarmatus. Folii petiolis 9–18 mm longis. Flores ut videtur hermaphroditi staminibus ca. 15 vel feminei staminodiis 3–4 praediti. Fructus subglobosus pedicello usque ad 12–15 mm elongato supra basin 3–7 mm articulado insidens.

Small tree or shrub, 1–12 m, deciduous, without thorns, young stems minutely puberulent, soon glabrescent. Leaves obovate, oblanceolate or wide-elliptic, apex acute, obtuse or approaching rounded, then abruptly and briefly acuminate, base decurrent on petiole, 4.5–10.7 cm long, 2.5–5 cm wide, margin serrate-glandular, teeth often incurved with glands on lower surface, margins often slightly revolute over glands; petiole 9–18 mm long, glabrous. Flowers seemingly perfect or pistillate with staminodes, inflorescence appearing sessile and fasciculate in flower (noticeably pedunculate and subcorymbose in fruit), flowering from leafless axils (all leaves lost or some younger leaves present), 1 inflorescence per axil, 1–6 flowers per inflorescence, peduncle in fruit 2–6 mm long, densely puberulent, often totally obscured by bracts; bracts 1–2 mm long, imbricate at base of inflorescence and often present at point of articulation on pedicel, puberulent, villose-ciliate; pedicel 2.5–7 mm, expanding in fruit to 12–15 mm long, articulate at 1–3 mm from base (3–7 mm in fruit), densely puberulent; sepals yellow, 5 or

6, ovate, 1.2–2.3 mm long, 0.7–2 mm wide, internally densely hispid, externally puberulent (sometimes with apex villous), margin ciliate; stamens 13–15 in perfect flowers, 2–2.5 mm long, staminodes or bases of antherless filaments 3–4 in pistillate flowers; disk lobes fused to various degrees to form an irregularly lobed annulus 0.2–0.3 mm high, succulent; ovary glabrous, style 2–3-branched, branches divergent or not, 0.7 mm long, glabrous, stigmas many lobed. Fruit green or red, subglobose, 4–8 mm diam., glabrous, retaining style, stigmas, and disk, usually retaining some filaments, rarely retaining sepals; seeds 2–4, wedge-shaped or ovoidal, 4–4.5 mm long, 2–3.2 mm wide, glabrous.

Distribution. *Xylosma longipedicellata* has been collected in northwestern Nicaragua, in the departments of Estelí, Jinotega, and Madriz, and in south-central Honduras in the department of Francisco Morazán. This is an area that receives very limited precipitation: only 712 mm of annual rainfall is recorded at the weather station in Condega, with an average humidity of 69% (Fenzl, 1989). The collections are all from relatively high elevations, between 1000 and 1600 m. The substrate is the Tertiary volcanic, “Grupo Coyal, Superior” (Fenzl, 1989).

Phenology. Plants have been collected in flower and without leaves (or with only very young leaves) in January, February, and March; two were collected in flower with more mature leaves (but almost all from younger branchlets)—one in November and the other in January. This corresponds fairly well with the dry season, which runs from November to April (Fenzl, 1989). Plants have been collected in fruit with leaves in December, February, March, April, May, June, and July.

Paratypes. NICARAGUA. **Depto. Estelí:** Salto la Estanzuela, 13°01'N, 86°21'W, elevation 1000 m, 29 Mar. 1983 (perfect flowers), *P. P. Moreno 21138* (HNMN, MO); Salto la Estanzuela, 13°01'30"N, 86°21'W, elevation ca. 1100 m, 26 Nov. 1983 (perfect flowers), *A. Grijalva & M. V. Sandino 3300* (HNMN, MO); El Delirio, entrada al Zacatón, camino a Miraflores, 13°13'N, 86°14'W, elevation aprox. 1400 m, 26 Dec. 1982 (young fruits), *P. P. Moreno 19390* (HNMN, MO);

